

'sport* by the Council, a body with a name something like 'The Sportsmen's League,' and with strong Conservative tendencies, waited upon him to hear his views on this momentous subject. He received the deputation with his usual affability, listened to them with becoming gravity, and then gave them an address on 'Sport' which must have aroused their enthusiasm for his candidature, for, the next day, every public-house in Deptford contained a bill appealing to the electors to *Vote for Webb, the British sportsman' "**

They did they went on returning him, through six successive elections

Of his eighteen years' membership, his own account is that it was "a somewhat strenuous, occasionally an exciting and, on the whole, a joyous episode " But it is no use going to his own account for any description of "how he did it " "More important than my own personal experience is the achievement of the Council"—

that is how he, in the very next sentence, goes on No suggestion of *quorum pars magna fui*, even when he continues "The special note of the Council's work during the next fifteen years was its perpetual attempt to provide for London, in all departments, not only the best but also the utmost that Municipal Collectivism could secure"—

in other words, to carry out the ' London Progamme '

This was accomplished through a Progressive majority which was certainly not Socialist, but was, in effect, thoroughly permeated and most skilfully led, almost without its knowing it He never drove he infused.

Civic pride, administrative efficiency—from these notes

he, and the colleagues who worked with him,
extracted
such appealing music that, over a very wide
area of the
local government of London, and following
London's
example, of the entire country, collective
provision for
public needs was instituted over an
extensive field of
public need, without more than a very
occasional battle-

¹ *Book of the Labour Party*